WE CLAIM:

1. A method for preventing unauthorized use of software transmitted over a communication link, the method comprising the steps:

(a) providing an electronic unit with a unique software key;

(b) encrypting the software to be transmitted as a function of said unique software key; and

(c) transmitting the encrypted software over said communication link.

(d) providing an upload program which only allows for uploading of said software into an electronic unit with a matching software key.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said software key is embedded in the electronic unit in which the requested software is to be uploaded.

3. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said electronic unit is a global positioning system (GPS) unit.

4. The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said unique software key is embedded in said GPS unit.

5. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said encrypting step includes cyclic redundancy coding (CRS).

6. The method as recited in Claim 5, where said unique software key is initially used as a seed for encrypting said software.

7. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said communication link is wired link.

8. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein said wired link is an Internet link.

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9. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said encrypted software includes a footer tag that includes the unique software key.

10. The method as recited in Claim 9, wherein said upload program decrypts said encrypted software.

11. The method as recited in Claim 10 wherein said upload file reads the unique software key from the footer tag and compares the software key in the footer tag with the software key in the unit.

12. The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said software is a database containing topographical data.

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13. A system for preventing unauthorized use of software transmitted over a communication link, the system comprising:

an electronic unit with a software key;

means for encrypting software as a function of said software key defining encrypted software;

means for transmitting said encrypted software over a communication link; and

means for uploading said encrypted software into an electronic unit with a matching software key.

14. The system as recited in Claim 13, wherein said electronic unit is a GPS unit.

15. The system as recited in Claim 13, wherein said software key is embedded in said electronic unit.

16. The system as recited in Claim 13, wherein said encrypting means utilizes cyclic redundancy coding for encrypting said software.

17. The system as recited in Claim 16, wherein said unique software key is initially used as a seed for encrypting said software.

18. The system as recited in Claim 13, wherein said communication link is a wired link.

19. The system as recited in Claim 13, wherein said uploading means includes means for decrypting said encrypted software.

20. The system as recited in Claim 14, wherein said software is topographical data.

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